

PUBLIC NOTICE
Of The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Tentative Determination To Issue A
Hazardous Waste Permit Renewal To TAPI Puerto Rico, Inc., Guayama Puerto Rico
EPA ID Number: PRD090613357

Public Notice Number: PR-2007-02

Date: August 14, 2007

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby gives notice of its tentative determination to issue a Hazardous Waste Permit renewal to TAPI Puerto Rico, Inc (TAPI). The TAPI Guayama plant is located on the south west coast of Puerto Rico, three miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The street address is Road #3, Km. 143.0, Guayama, Puerto Rico 00785. Pharmaceuticals manufacturing operations have occurred at this site since 1978. The facility was previously owned and operated most recently by API.

TAPI chemical manufacturing processes produce bulk active pharmaceutical ingredients which are transported to other facilities for pharmaceutical formulation and distribution. The company generates hazardous wastes during its manufacturing processes. Some of the hazardous waste generated is shipped off-site to a federally permitted hazardous waste disposal facility. The remainder of the waste is treated on site in TAPI's incinerators. The facility has an existing EPA Permit to manage hazardous waste on its site. The permit renewal, if approved by EPA, would allow TAPI to continue to manage hazardous waste on site.

TAPI's predecessor submitted a permit renewal application to EPA in March 1999, which was revised and supplemented thereafter. The term of any final permit issued by EPA will be for ten (10) years from its effective date. The renewed Permit will authorize TAPI to store hazardous waste in containers and tanks at its facility, establish relevant RCRA requirements for the operation of two hazardous waste incinerators, and require the investigation and cleanup of its site where necessary. Air emissions from, and other operational requirements for, the hazardous waste incinerators are regulated under the Clean Air Act, as amended (CAA) and are governed under a separate permit issued pursuant to the CAA. The Draft Permit also requires TAPI to develop a Hazardous Waste Reduction Plan as part of its waste minimization program.

This Notice advises the public that EPA has made a tentative determination to issue the draft Permit renewal to TAPI subject to public notice and comment. A forty-five (45) day public comment period begins as of the date of this Notice, on August 14, 2007 and will extend through September 27, 2007.

Any person may submit written comments on EPA's tentative decision to issue the draft Permit renewal to TAPI and may also request in writing that a public hearing be held on this matter in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 124.12. The request for a public hearing must state the issues proposed to be raised at a hearing. Both written comments and requests for a hearing must be postmarked no later than September 27, 2007 date, which is forty five (45) days from the date of this notice, and be addressed to:

Adolph S. Everett, Chief,

RCRA Programs Branch (2DEPP-RPB)
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, New York, 10007-1866

The Statement of Basis, the Public Notice, the Draft Permit, and all supporting data and documents are available for review to interested persons at the following locations:

1. Guayama Public Library
Arts and Culture Center
Derekes Final, Street
Guayama, Puerto Rico 00784
call (787) 864-0600.
2. United States Environmental Protection Agency
Caribbean Environmental Protection Division (CEPD)
Centro Europa Building
1492 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 417
Santurce, Puerto Rico, 00907-4127
call Mr. Angel E.Salgado (787) 977-5854
3. Environmental Quality Board
Land Pollution Control Area
Hazardous Waste Permit Division
Avenue Ponce de Leon #1308
Carr Estatal 8838
Sector El Conco
Rio Piedras, PR 00926
call Ms Josephine Acevedo at (787) 767-8181, ext. 3584
4. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
RCRA Programs Branch
290 Broadway, 22nd Floor
New York, New York, 10007-1866
call Mr. Sin-Kie Tjho at (212) 637-4115

EPA will hold a public meeting regarding the Draft Permit Renewal. A public meeting differs from, and does not constitute, a public hearing under 40 C.F.R. § 124.12. The purpose of the public meeting is to share information and discuss issues, not make decisions. Comments made during the public meeting will not become part of the official administrative record, as they would during a public hearing. The public meeting will be held on August 29, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at:

Assembly Room
City Hall of Guayama

Second Floor
Vicente Pales Street
Guayama, PR 00784

EPA will carefully consider comments submitted during the comment period and will provide responses in a responsiveness summary accompanying the final permit decision. Within thirty (30) days of EPA's final decision, any person who submitted public comments, or who made a statement at a public hearing, if one is held, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board to review the decision based on comments he or she submitted. Persons who did not submit comments on the draft Permit renewal may only appeal new changes made in the final permit renewal approved by EPA.

For additional details about EPA's permitting process, please consult the regulations set forth in 40 C.F.R. Parts 124 and 270.